

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03860 271619Z

43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 PA-01 PRS-01 /045 W
----- 007552

O R 271600Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
USDEL RIYADH IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3600

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3860

E.O. 16652: GDS
TAGS: CGEN, LE, SA (KRAFT, JOSEPH)
SUBJECT: KRAFT VISA

REF: BEIRUT 3701; RIYADH 04

1. SAUDI EMBASSY BEIRUT HAS STILL NOT RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION
ISSUE KRAFT VISA.
2. SAUDI EMBASSY CAN, HOWEVER, ISSUE SPECIAL VISAS FOR ALL
JOURNALISTS TRAVELING TO SAUDI ARABIA IN CONNECTION KING'S
DEATH. THEY WILLING GRANT SUCH VISA TO KRAFT BUT CAN DO SO ONLY
THROUGH MARCH 29 AND HOLDERS MUST DEPART IMMEDIATELY FOR SAUDI
ARABIA. IT NOT CLEAR HERE HOW LONG A STAY WOULD BE PERMITTED OR
IF HOLDERS AUTHORIZED ANY ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN COVERING KING'S
DEATH.
3. KRAFT STILL MOST ANXIOUS VISIT SAUDI ARABIA, BUT PREFERS
TRAVEL ON REGULAR VISA, NOT ONLY AS THIS PERMITS BETTER TIMING
OF VISIT, BUT ALSO AS HE ASSUMES IT PROVIDES GREATER FLEXIBILITY
OF TRAVEL, DURATION OF STAY, SUBJECT TO BE COVERED, ETC. HOWEVER,
HE DOES NOT WISH PASS UP OPPORTUNITY FOR SPECIAL JOURNALIST
VISA IF THIS ONLY WAY HE CAN REASONABLY EXPECT TO OBTAIN PERMISSION
ENTRY. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKS FOR AMBASSADOR AKINS' ADVICE IN
THIS REGARD.

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4. WE ASSUME YOU ARE CONTINUING TAKE WHAT STEPS YOU CAN DURING

THESE DIFFICULT TIMES TO INSURE TRANSMITTAL OF APPROVAL FOR
REGULAR VISA TO BEIRUT. IF APPROVAL HAS DEFINITELY BEEN SENT,
CAN YOU OBTAIN CABLE NUMBER AND DATE?
GODLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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